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Oscar-Winner Meryl Streep is the Keynote Speaker at the University of New Hampshire Commencement

By [Lori Gula](#)
UNH News Bureau
603-862-0574

April 22, 2003

DURHAM, N.H. -- University of New Hampshire graduates will share the celebration of their academic accomplishments with award-winning actor Meryl Streep, who is the keynote speaker at the 133rd Commencement Saturday, May 24, 2003.



Meryl Streep
[Download photo here](#)

The culmination of a student's academic career, commencement begins at 10 a.m. at Cowell Stadium Field, rain or shine. The ceremony is expected to run approximately two hours, and tickets are not needed.

Streep's impressive acting career spans nearly three decades. Her great empathy for her characters and the diversity of the women she has chosen to portray has distinguished her work in film, television and theater. She will be awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

She has won the Academy Award twice, as best actress for Sophie's Choice (1982) and best supporting actress for Kramer vs. Kramer (1979). Her cinematic accomplishments include Julia, The Deer Hunter, Manhattan, The Seduction of Joe Tynan, The French Lieutenant's Woman, Silkwood, Falling in Love, Plenty, Out of Africa, Heartburn, Ironweed, A Cry in the Dark, She-Devil, Postcards From the Edge, Defending Your Life, The House of the Spirits, Death Becomes Her, The Bridges of Madison County, The River Wild, Marvin's Room, Dancing at Lughnasa, One True Thing, Music of the Heart, Adaptation, and most recently, The Hours.

Streep has been nominated for 13 Academy Awards, making her the most-nominated actress in the history of the Academy Awards (Katharine Hepburn held the previous record at 12). At the 2003 Golden Globes, she was honored with the best supporting actress for *Adaptation*, as well as nominated for best actress for *The Hours*.

A graduate of Vassar and Yale Drama School, Streep began her career on stage and appeared in seven plays during her first season in New York. She won the Outer Critics Circle Award, the Theater World Award, an Obie and a Tony nomination.

Early in her career in television, she won an Emmy for her work in the miniseries, "Holocaust," and more recently, an Emmy nomination for "First, Do No Harm," in which she starred and co-produced.

Streep has been married to sculptor Don Gummer for 24 years. They have four children.

Parking is available in Lots A, F, Mast Road and West Edge. Shuttles will provide transportation from the Mast Road and West Edge lots. Special services parking is available in B Lot for those candidates and guest with mobility impairments.

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